Guide

U.S. Department of Education Programs

to U.S. Department of Education Programs

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of the Secretary

Office of Public Affairs

Washington, D.C.

2004

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Rod Paige Secretary of Education

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EDITORIAL POLICY, PUBLICATIONS AND PRINTING BRANCH Jacquelyn Zimmermann Chief

AUGUST 2004

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ISBN: 0-16-073124-0

GPO Stock Number: 065-000-01376-2

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A Message from the Secretary

This reference guide is designed to explain the U.S. Department of Education's programs and resources for fiscal year 2004. Here, you will find information on financial assistance offered to state and local education agencies, institutions of higher education, postsecondary and vocational institutions, public and private nonprofit organizations, and individuals. There is information here for students, teachers, administrators, researchers and policy-makers.

President George W. Bush has made education reform one of his top priorities, and we at the U.S. Department of Education are helping to make sure that no child is left behind in these efforts. We are working with members of Congress, state and local leaders, teachers and administrators to empower states, school districts, schools and parents to meet the needs of all students.

Accountability, local control and flexibility, new options for parents and increased funding for what works are now the cornerstones of our education system. If children aren't learning, we'll know why. If our schools aren't performing to the standards set forth in No Child Left Behind, they will receive additional help. Our commitment to you, and to all Americans, is to ensure that every child in America—regardless of ethnicity, income or background—meets high standards.

I hope that the information presented here will help you understand the work of this Department and how its programs, services and resources support our goal of providing every child in this country with access to a quality education.

Sincerely,

Secretary of Education

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Acknowledgments

This *Guide* could not be published without the help of hundreds of Department employees throughout the agency. Thanks to our contributing editors for fiscal year 2004, who were: Tamela Terry, Federal Student Aid; Tom Brown, Institute of Education Sciences; Edna Carter, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education; Francine Luckey-West, Office of English Language Acquisition; Liza Araujo, Office of Innovation and Improvement; Dolly Stevenson, Office of Postsecondary Education; Bryan Williams, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools; Elizabeth McCulley, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Cathie Martin, Office of the Under Secretary; and Carolyn Lee, Office of Vocational and Adult Education. Thanks to reviewers Patricia Belton and Kamina Pinder, Office of the General Counsel and Jan Solomon, Budget Service, Office of the Deputy Secretary. Thanks also to Elnora Walker, Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs. Thanks once again for excellent technical support from Lin Wallberg, Lotus Notes expert and contractor, Office of the Chief Information Officer. Finally, thanks go to my branch chief, Jackye Zimmermann, Office of Public Affairs, for her help in making sure this project succeeded.

Edward Ohnemus
Team Leader, Office of Public Affairs

Introduction

The *Guide to U.S. Department of Education Programs and Resources*, commonly referred to as the *Guide to ED Programs*, provides an overview of all Department of Education programs authorized and funded under federal law. It also includes information on competitions administered under these programs as well as on the laboratories, centers, and other facilities funded by the Department that provide important resources for education.

Ten principal offices are responsible for operating these programs. These principal offices are:

- Federal Student Aid (FSA).
- Institute of Education Sciences (IES).
- Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE).
- Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA).
- Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII).
- Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE).
- Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools (OSDFS).
- Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).
- Office of the Under Secretary (OUS).
- Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE).

The *Guide to ED Programs* can be found on the Department's Web site (http://web99.ed.gov/GTEP/Program2.nsf), and is updated regularly by ED employees. The *Guide*'s Web page and the larger Department of Education Web site (www.ed.gov) are both accessible to computer users with disabilities. The *Guide*'s Web site allows you to perform searches by key words, administering office, *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance* (CFDA) number, education level, subject index terms, topical headings, type of assistance, and type of applicant ("Who May Apply"). In addition, the *Guide*'s Web site contains an archive of past programs that generally have not been funded for three years or more by the Department.

Entries in the Guide

Each entry in this volume is listed under a broad topical heading, which is keyed to the table of contents found on page vii of the 2004 printed *Guide*. The program title and any other commonly used names come next, followed by the principal office that administers the program. These are followed by the *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance* (CDFA) number or similar Department number (numbers 84.500 and higher). Programs which are listed as "No CFDA" do not have CFDA numbers assigned to them. See also the CFDA Web site at: http://www.cfda.gov/.

After the CFDA number, information is provided about which entities are eligible to apply to each program. Next comes information on any current competitions and the types of assistance available. Funding levels for FY 2004 and the previous two fiscal years follow next. Most of the programs in the guide received funding in FY 2004. Programs that received no funding in FY 2004 are also included in the guide because they are still disbursing continuation funds from previous years.

The next section provides information about new awards in FY 2004, if any. Readers interested in the Department's discretionary grants should refer frequently to the "Forecast of Funding Opportunities under ED's Discretionary Grant Programs" at: www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html.

The next section gives detailed information on each program, including the citation for the program's authorizing legislation and any program regulations. For major pieces of legislation, unless otherwise noted, the words "as amended" in italics refers readers to the most recent reauthorization of the law cited. For example, the most recent amendments to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act were contained in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). Therefore the citation "Elementary and

Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended" refers to the changes made by the NCLB. In other cases, we specifically name the law that contains the amendments. For example, for a program authorized under a prior amendment to ESEA, such as the Improving America Schools Act of 1994 (IASA), the language reads "as amended by the IASA." Other significant pieces of legislation and their most recent major amendments include: the Higher Education Act of 1965, most recently amended by the Higher Education Amendments of 1998; the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA, most recently amended by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997; and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, most recently amended by Title IV of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. The Education Department's General Administrative Regulations, referred to as "EDGAR," generally apply to discretionary and competitive grants whether or not EDGAR is indicated in the program regulations field. The same is true for the government-wide Federal Acquisition Regulation, FAR, for contracts.

Under several education laws, states, school districts, and educators now have greater flexibility in how they may use federal program funds to support state and local school improvement efforts. Flexibility initiatives, such as Ed-Flex, waivers, and other forms of flexibility including schoolwide programs, and certain provisions in ESEA's Title IX as reauthorized by NCLB, offer states, school districts, and others an opportunity to adapt federal programs in ways that they believe best educate children and improve teaching and learning. Please visit: www.ed.gov/nclb/freedom/local/flexibility/ for more information on flexibility and waivers.

The next section of each entry gives a brief description of the program's purpose and information about the types of projects carried out. The target education levels are specified for each program and as well as subject terms, which may help guide readers to specific programs. These latter terms are explained more in the subject index at the back of the book. Finally, at the end of each entry, the Department has provided contact information for each program, along with a list of related Web sites.

Other Notice of Grants and Contracts

Notices of all competitions for Education Department discretionary and competitive grants are published in the *Federal Register*, which is published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration (see: www.archives.gov/federal_register/). You also may access *Federal Register* documents specific only to the Education Department at: www.ed.gov/news/fedregister/.

Information on Education Department contracts may be found on the ED Web site at: www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/contracts/contracts.html. As of Jan. 2, 2002, requests for proposals (RFPs) for ED procurement opportunities exceeding \$25,000, which were previously announced in the *Commerce Business Daily*, are now advertised on the Federal Business Opportunities Web site at: www.fedbizopps.gov/. This Web publication was designated in the Federal Acquisition Regulation to provide universal public access on the Internet to government-wide federal procurement opportunities (see 66 *Federal Register* 27407, May 16, 2001).

Guide to ED Programs Web Site http://web99.ed.gov/GTEP/Program2.nsf

Please Note: The programs listed in this guide were accurate as of the publication date; however, the Department of Education's program data and contact information are periodically updated. Please refer to the *Guide's* Web site for the most upto-date information.

Guide

U.S. Department of Education Programs